

METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY



November 19, 2014

Art Rand – Board Chair
The Mary Parrish Center
P.O. Box 60009
Nashville, TN 37206

Dear Mr. Rand:

Please find attached the Monitoring Report of The Mary Parrish Center relating to the contract it had with the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014.

The Office of Financial Accountability is charged with the responsibility of monitoring grant funds, including Community Enhancement Funds, from Metropolitan Nashville Government to any nonprofit organization. Staff from the Office of Financial Accountability conducted the review on October 30, 2014.

We appreciate the assistance provided by your agency during the course of the review. If you have any questions, please call me at 615-862-6712.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brown

Kevin Brown

cc: Valerie Wynn, Executive Director
Richard M. Riebeling, Director of Finance
Talia Lomax-O'dneal, Deputy Director of Finance
Gene Nolan, Deputy Director of Finance

Fred Adom, Office of Financial Accountability
Kim McDoniel, Chief of Accounts
Mark Swann, Internal Audit
Essie Robertson, Office of Financial Accountability
Brad Thompson, Office of Financial Accountability



Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

The Mary Parrish Center

◆ Monitoring Report ◆

Conducted by



Office of Financial Accountability

November 19, 2014

MONITORING REPORT

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INTRODUCTION

The Office of Financial Accountability (hereinafter referred to as “OFA”) has completed a monitoring review of The Mary Parrish Center. A monitoring review is substantially less in scope than an audit. The OFA did not audit the financial statements and, accordingly, does not express an opinion or any assurances regarding the financial statements of The Mary Parrish Center or any of its component units. The OFA is responsible for the internal monitoring of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County (hereinafter referred to as “Metro”) agencies that receive federal and state financial assistance, including cooperative agreements and non-profit organizations that receive appropriations and Community Enhancement Funds from Metro government. In summary, any agreement(s) that imposes performance and/or financial requirements on Metro government is subject to review by the OFA.

The purpose of this review was to assess the agency’s compliance with contractual requirements set forth in the following contract with Metro Government:

Contract	Type	Amount	Contact Term	
L-2996	Community Enhancement Funds	\$43,500	July 1, 2013	June 30, 2014

Agency Background

The Mary Parrish Center for Victims of Domestic Violence provides access to an array of services for domestic/sexual violence victims and their children during dangerous and/or critical times. The agency offers a transitional housing program where women can live safely and receive services they need to heal and thrive. This is the largest transitional housing program for victims of domestic violence in middle Tennessee. Since opening in 2002, approximately 1,000 women have sought help at the MPC each year. The agency also collaborates with all major systems that impact the health and wellbeing of victims. These systems include the health, housing, legal, law enforcement, and educational systems. By integrating and developing positive relationships with these systems, victims receive comprehensive expert care in one central location.

OBJECTIVES, SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY

The objectives of our review were:

- 1) To determine whether the agency had the resources and capacity to administer the grant funds.
- 2) To determine if costs and services were allowable and eligible.
- 3) To verify that program objectives were met.
- 4) To test the reliability of the financial and programmatic reporting.
- 5) To verify contractual compliance.

The scope of our review was limited to the contract term July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Audit procedures included meeting with agency management and staff, reviewing the design of internal controls as a basis for establishing our testwork, reviewing board minutes and obtaining written representations from management. In addition, we examined certain financial records and supporting documentation necessary to ensure compliance with contractual requirements set forth in contract L-2996. Specific procedures included:

- Interviewing the employees responsible for grant management, financial reporting and accountability.
- Reviewing supporting documentation of expenditures for allowability, necessity and reasonableness.
- Reviewing the agency's general ledger and verifying the accuracy of all invoices submitted to Metro.
- Reviewing documentation to determine that funds were used for intended beneficiaries and expended in accordance with the spending plan of the contract.
- Reviewing documentation to support program activities for consistency with grant requirements.
- Assessing the financial stability of the agency and its ability to continue to administer the grant program funded by Metro.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Criteria	Yes	No
Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Funds?	✓	
Costs and Services Allowable and Eligible?	✓	
Program Objectives Met?		✓
Reporting Requirements Met?	✓	
Sufficient Internal Control Environment?	✓	
Compliance with Civil Rights Requirements?	✓	

RESULTS OF REVIEW

The overall results of the monitoring review are provided in this section. Results are based on testwork performed and include conclusions regarding specific review objectives and, if applicable, recommendations for improvement and an action plan for implementation. Where applicable, the Findings and Recommendations section of this report provides more insight into any issues identified below.

1. Sufficient Resources and Capacity to Administer Grant Funds

Our review of the agency's accounting system and the qualifications of the individuals assigned to manage the accounting records indicate that the agency possesses the necessary resources and professional expertise to effectively administer the grant funds.

2. Allowable and Eligible Costs and Services

Our review covered all of the core compliance areas identified by OMB Circular A- 133: *Audit of States, Local Government, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Costs incurred by the agency complied with applicable guidelines stated in OMB Circular A-122.

Additionally, the Metro Grants Manual requires separate accounting of the Metropolitan Nashville Government grant funds to prevent co-mingling of Metro Funds with other sources of funding. The agency is in compliance with this requirement. Different revenue classes as well as expenditure classes have been established to separately track the sources and amounts of funding. Also, the agency can easily and accurately report their expenses supported by the Metro Appropriation.

Based on our test work, costs and services during the period were allowable and eligible.

3. Program and Performance Objectives

The contract stipulates that the agency shall use the funds to provide transitional housing (hereinafter referred to as TH) to 30 women and children escaping domestic violence. In addition, provide phone support for 1300 domestic violence

RESULTS OF REVIEW

victims (hereinafter referred to as DVV) and 120 DVV referred to MPC through SAVE with the following outcomes:

- 13 Adults who participate in the TH program for 2 months or more will report that the experience produced a significant improvement in their overall sense of safety, well-being and empowerment.
- 12 Adult TH residents will report that the Victim Advocate helped them to develop and reach self-identified goals, access services and solve daily problems.
- 110 of the SAVE DVV who respond will report they feel safer and better informed about the community services available to them as a result of our contacts.

Based on our review of program documentation and discussions with staff, one program performance objective was not met and the agency is not in compliance with contractual program objectives.

4. Reliability of Financial and Programmatic Reporting

The contract requires submission of an annual audit report performed by a Certified Public Accountant. The contract also requires the agency to submit to Metro year end reports of the program outcome and a final expenditures report, no more than 45 days after the close of the contract.

We reviewed all applicable financial and programmatic reports required by the contract, including audited financial statements. Based on our review, the agency complied with all financial and programmatic reporting requirements.

5. Internal Control Environment

In order to determine the adequacy of the design of internal controls, we obtained and reviewed an independent auditor's report on internal control over financial reporting and/or a completed internal control questionnaire. This audit procedure was performed solely as a basis for determining our test work and to assist us in making suggestions for improvement to management. We did not evaluate the operating effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting.

RESULTS OF REVIEW

Our review of the design of the agency's internal controls did not reveal any control deficiencies. Further, nothing came to our attention that would necessitate suggestions for improvement in internal control activities to management.

6. Civil Rights Requirements

Our review did not reveal anything to indicate that the agency was noncompliant with civil rights requirements. The agency also has necessary written policies and procedures relating to civil rights. The agency has not received any complaints regarding any form of discrimination. Further, civil rights and ADA postings are publicly displayed.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Program Performance Goals Not Supported

The following contractual program objective was not fully supported:

- Transitional housing (hereinafter referred to as TH) will be provided for 30 women and children escaping domestic violence. Provide phone support for 1300 domestic violence victims (hereinafter referred to as DVV) and 120 DVV referred to MPC through SAVE.

Based on our testing and the documentation provided, the agency was unable to provide support for the 1300 domestic violence victim's phone calls. The agency insists that the phone calls were answered but it did not keep a log documenting the number of calls received. As such, the auditor was unable to verify the number of callers that were provided with support.

Recommendation:

Information pertaining to program objectives in the Final Program Report should be based on actual results and supported by written documentation. In addition, management should review the achievement of those objectives before they are reported to the Metro Division of Grants Coordination, in order to ensure their accuracy.

In addition, established performance objectives should be objective and reasonable.

Corrective Action Plan Required

Please submit a corrective action plan indicating the actions the agency intends to take to correct the findings identified in this report. The corrective action plan should be submitted within 30 days from the report date to the address below:

Division of Grants Coordination
PO Box 196300
Nashville, TN 37219
ATTN: Dennise Meyers